



# Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

## Cultural Presentations

*In celebrating the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, the Goddard Advisory Committee for Asian Pacific American Employees (ACAPAE) is sponsoring a series of performances from Asian cultures.*

*Light refreshment will be served after the performances.*

*Date and Time: Thursday, May 16, 2002,  
11:30-1:30*

*Place: GSFC Building 8 Auditorium*

### VIETNAMESE TRADITIONAL COSTUME SHOW

*The traditional dress for women in Vietnam is called Ao Dai, literally meaning "long dress". The Ao Dai is very simple, elegant, and modest. It gives the Vietnamese women a look of luxury and femininity. The Ao Dai consists of a long flowing thin fabric that can come in different colors. The Ao Dai has a close fitting bodice, a mandarin collar, long fitted sleeves, slit on both side, and free flowing front and back panels. A pair of long, wide flowing pants that touches the ground is worn under the Ao Dai. The Ao Dai can be worn on any occasion, such as school, in restaurants and hotels, on the street, at weddings, or festival days. Ao Dai costumes have become familiar to foreigners and are considered the symbol of Vietnamese women.*

### JAPANESE DRUM PERFORMANCE

*Ryukyu Drum music is an indigenous Okinawan percussion music that was started by one individual who believed music to be a guiding tool for the mental and spiritual growth of young people. Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko is based on the oldest tradition of Eisaa and Karate forms. Although an Eisaa group consists mostly of very small drums called Paranku, almost all members of Matsuri Daiko use big drums suspended by a piece of long purple cloth. The costume of Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko, called Mumunuchihantaa, is a classical garb derived from China. While the traditional Eisaa has had little change over the years, Matsuri Daiko creates its own music and dances. For example, it uses not only Okinawan traditional folk music but also modern rock music. Historically, this drum music was popular among the common people since ancient times in Okinawa but was only used on special occasions for entertainment at local festivals. Presently, Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko drum dancing is very popular among young and old alike, and the number of participants has increased dramatically.*

### THAI SAT CHATRI DANCE

*"Sat Chatri" dance has its origin in southern Thailand. The dance's swift and graceful movements are derived from the old style play "Lakhon Chatri", which is a basis of the modern classical dance form. It has a lively and rousing tempo of music unique to southern Thailand accompanied by the oboe, a pair of drums, gong, small cymbals, a pair of single-faced drums, and bamboo stick castanets. The movements of the body, arms, hands, and legs are sensual, imitating the natural movements of birds and animals. Dancers usually adorn their fingers with long, curved, bronzed fingernails.*

### VIETNAMESE TRADITIONAL DANCE

*The Vietnamese Traditional Dance is normally performed at special occasions such as New Year, the Moon Festival, and other festival days. There are several dances that can be performed either with ribbons, flowers, fans, or Vietnamese traditional hats. The dance is performed in small groups that have 8-10 people.*